Rs. 2750/- per Metric Tonne FFBs of oil palm from 18.02.2000, 17.08.2000. A total quantity of 3189.768 Metric Tonnes FFBs of oil palm was procured by Karnataka Cooperative Oilseeds Grower's Federation Ltd. (OILFED) Karnataka, under MIS during this period. Under the Scheme, loss if any, is shared by the Central Government and the State Government on 50:50 basis. The accounts of full quantity of 3189.768 Metric Tonne FFBs of oil palm procured under the approved MIS during 2000-2001 have been settled and the Central Government's share of loss amounting to Rs. 7,97,442.00 has been released to the Government of Karnataka.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Biotechnology in Agriculture

4652. SHRI S.K. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1046 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd July, 2004 and state the details of outcome inter-ministerial consultations in respect of the recommendations of the task force on Application of Bio Technology in Agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): The Government have examined the report of the Task Force on Application of Biotechnology in Agriculture on the basis of the Inter-ministerial consultations and have decided priorities for implementation as given in enclosed statement.

Statement

Priorities for Agri-Biotechnology

1. Finalisation of National Biotech Policy by the Department of Biotechnology.
2. Rationalisation of approval process under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as suggested by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan's Task Force.
3. Release of Bt. Cotton varieties for North Zone.
4. Post-release monitoring to be started by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
5. Capacity building for post-release monitoring and training.
6. Public awareness campaign to be launched by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation in association with State Agricultural Universities and other scientific organizations/institutes.

7. Finalising combined strategy for arresting spread of non-approved Bt. Cotton seeds,

8. Developing the testing facilities for Genetically Modified seeds.

9. To finalise Action Plan for the components relating to Agri-biotechnology in the National Biotech Policy.

10. Identification of crops and traits for use of application of biotechnology.

Fish Production

4653. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fish production from marine and inland sources could not achieve the desired level of target set for 2004-05;

(b) whether, due to this, the social-economic security of the artisan fishermen will be considerably affected;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the projected fish production and the actual achievement made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) The estimated total fish production during April-December, 2004 is 47.72 lakh tonnes (provisional) against 46.69 lakh tonnes during April-December, 2003. The information on fish production during January-March, 2005 is awaited from state Government/UT Administrations.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view above.

(d) the projected and actual total Fish Production for the year 2002-03 to 2004-05 are as given below:

Year	Projected Fish Production (Lakh tonnes)	Actual Production (lakh tonnes)
2002-03	60.50	62.00
2003-04	62.50	63.99
2004-05	65.10	47.72 (April-December, 04)